

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1 20. A method for coding image data, comprising:
2 storing previously defined tools;
3 individually selecting at least one tool from the stored
4 tools;
5 inputting image data and coding the image data using the
6 stored coding algorithm; and
7 transmitting coded image data and tool information
8 indicating the decoding algorithm for decoding the coded image
9 data.

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11 21. A propagated signal embodied in a carrier, comprising:
12 a first code segment including compressed image data; and
13 a second code segment including tool information which
14 indicates tools for constituting a decoding algorithm for
15 decoding the compressed image data;
16 wherein at least one tool for constituting the decoding
17 algorithm is selected individually.